

XMAS MERRIMENT PERVADES SCHOOLS

Pupils of Each Present Elaborate Programs of Seasonable Entertainment Today.

Elaborate plans have been made for Christmas entertainments to be held in the city schools today. There will be plays, entertainments, dances and tableaux, with excellent programs arranged for the high schools.

"An Xmas Box" will be the feature at the Eastern High School, a performance in which Ada Howell, Evelyn Naylor, Margaret King, Raymond Clark, Tosa Farnsworth, and Harold Williams will participate. An alumni reunion will follow the entertainment, at which a large number of pupils are expected.

Teachers and pupils of the Business High School will receive presents from a great Christmas tree which has been arranged by the pupils of the senior classes. Those who will participate are W. Walters, J. Sanford, W. Schaft, H. Gladston, F. Marks, James Davis, Margory Bartlett, Lucie Price, Bessie Ramsey, Lloyd Brodie, Robert Brennan, A. Perry, Theodore Otto, Ida Zerkin, Roland Legg, Elfrida Gies, Adele Thomas, Raymond Kind, Judith Barbaux, Ellen Meyer, Norma Cox, and Ellen Carmody. A Christmas potpourri will also be given.

Helen Swormsted, John Nichols, and Christopher Williams will appear in the leading roles of "The Rivals," which will be presented by the senior pupils of the Western High School.

The seniors of the Central High School will portray the leading characters of Shakespeare. Those who will participate are Ralph Turroff, Frank Rose, Hunter Mulford, Lenore Kolar, Marie Hamilton, Daniel Wilkerson, Robert Funkhauser, William Paxton, Robert Ide, Charles Hamilton, Franklin Meyers, John Gamba, Robert Bertram, Dionett, Elizabeth Allen, Dorothy Pasch and Iris Beatty.

An elaborate program will be given at the Wilson Normal School, in which all classes from the primary to senior grades will participate.

The entire Chevy Chase School has been decorated for the exercises to be held there. The members of the seventh and eighth grade classes will unite in presenting "Castle Christmas," and the fourth and fifth grades will present "The Night Before Christmas," both short plays, while the third grade has prepared "The Ruggles Family Preparing for Christmas," from Dickens.

High school fraternities, cadet companies, and other social organizations of the various high schools will have entertainments.

Special Music Arranged.

J. S. Thiemeyer, organist and director of music at Trinity German Lutheran Church, has arranged a special program of music at the church Christmas morning, assisted by H. Stevens, violinist, and Fritz Mueller, cellist.

SUES DOCTOR FOR LOSS OF TOE AND WIFE

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Rudolph Hoffman, in suing Dr. Gustave A. Rueck, makes the remarkable allegation that the physician cut off his toe while treating him for a corn so that Hoffman could not interfere with Dr. Rueck's alienation of Mrs. Hoffman's affections.

Hoffman demands \$10,000 damages for the loss of his wife and his toe. As the bill is not itemized, it is not known which he valued most.

Christmas Tree at Home for the Aged

The Ruppert Home for the Aged and Infirm, on Good Hope Heights, is having its Christmas celebration today. It is a day for the reception of relatives and other friends of the aged men and women in the institution, the display of a Christmas tree, distribution of presents, a musical entertainment, and the serving of delicacies in the dining room.

The Ladies' Aid Society, of which Mrs. Leopoldina Pacius is the president, came from Washington today to take charge of the program. The institution was decorated throughout. A handsome tree, around which were piled boxes of wearing apparel, confectionery, and fruit, stood in the assembly hall, ablaze with colored lights.

Salvation Army to Give 600 Baskets Away

The Salvation Army has made plans to dispense 600 baskets, each containing a complete Christmas dinner, from its headquarters, at 520 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, on Christmas eve. Clothing and shoes will be given 500 white children at the Cosmos Theater and 500 colored children also will receive clothes and shoes at the Howard Theater.

Parents to Receive Gifts.

A Christmas tree celebration at the Neighborhood House tonight will open the holiday festivities there, and the children of the house will present their parents with Christmas gifts they have made during the past few weeks. Open house will be observed all week, and there will be an entertainment for boys and girls Friday night.

CATHOLICS TO MAKE GIFTS TO NEEDY

Churches, Knights of Columbus, and Hibernians Plan Christmas Joy for Poor.

Catholic churches and organizations are planning to follow their usual custom of caring for the poor of their faith at Christmas time, and Catholic parishes all over the city will hold special Christmas entertainments for the members of their congregations.

At many of these celebrations there will be a Christmas tree and presents for those who attend.

The five councils of the Knights of Columbus in the District have appointed subcommittees, which will visit the widows and orphans of deceased members, and baskets of food and other comforts and necessities will be donated by the councils of the organization.

Kean Council, No. 553, plans a Christmas entertainment at its regular meeting next Friday night. Joseph D. Sullivan, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, announces that his organization will attend to the wants of members and their families who may be in need.

Xmas Cash for Retired Police and Firemen

Louis C. Wilson, disbursing officer of the District, appeared today in the role of Santa Claus for the pensioners of the Police and Fire Departments, each of whom were paid a half month's pension for the month of December.

A total of \$3,850.50 was paid the pensioners of the Police Department while those of the Fire Department received \$1,890.58. A half month's salary was paid the teachers of the public schools Monday.

Larceny Cases Continued.

To enable the staff of the United States Attorney's office to assemble the evidence without working on Christmas day, a number of larceny cases have been continued in the Judge Fugh's court until after Thursday. Steven O'Donnell, charged with the theft of a 37 inchometer from Sherman W. Frazier, of 1554 Valley place southeast, will be tried on December 27. Elwood Edmunds, alias Albert Nash, charged with grand larceny, will be tried on December 30. Charles Kloppeyer, the complaining witness in this case, accused Edmunds of stealing automobile tires, tubes and tanks to the value of \$40.25. Alfred Casey forfeited \$10 by his non-appearance in court today to answer to the charge of stealing fifteen bushels of coal from R. F. Batson.

Fire Marshal Issues Christmas Tree "Don'ts"

Following the advice offered by Fire Chief Frank J. Wagner as to methods of avoiding danger from fire, Fire Marshal P. W. Nicholson today issues the following series of "don'ts" to Christmas celebrants:

Don't decorate your Christmas tree with paper, cotton or other inflammable material, use metallic tinsel and other non-inflammable decorations only, and set the tree securely, so that the children in reaching for things cannot tip it over.

Don't use cotton to represent snow. If you must have snow use silver sand or asbestos fiber.

Don't leave matches within reach of children.

Don't place candles on the tree at all; if you use candles for decorations, it is a great temptation for the children to light them.

Don't place tree close to the gas, because in a few days the tree becomes very dry and the needles are easily ignited.

Electric lights for decorations, even storage batteries are not within the reach of all better not have candles at all than to have a fire which probably result in serious injury and probably death to some one.

Asks Santa for Coal.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 23.—"Please, I am cold—dear Santa Claus, won't you bring us some coal to keep us warm?" This was one of the many touching appeals for aid received by the "Santa Claus" Club. A ton of coal is on its way to the little poor girl's home today.

Stamps Furnish Xmas Fund.

MAIDEN, Mass., Dec. 23.—A Maiden boy has a \$4 Christmas fund through a flyer in stamps. He sold stamps at a penny premium to people who were waiting in the Christmas rush line at the postoffice.

Twins Her Xmas Gift.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 23.—Santa Claus was forehanded here in the Home of Mrs. January Hart this year, bringing a pair of twins on December 22 who today are well and husky. Santa was late last year, not arriving with twins until January 28. Four babies in one year is a record in this city.

Edward H. Fellowes

New Master of Hounds

Washington has a new M. F. H. Edward H. Fellowes has succeeded Walter R. Tuckerman as master of the hounds of the Riding and Hunt Club. When the field assemblies for the club's fox hunt Saturday morning, the new master will be in the saddle. Mr. Tuckerman has resigned the master's billet because of business pressure. His resignation is the cause of much regret to the entire membership of the organization. Mr. Tuckerman's successor is an Englishman. He has hunted extensively in England and in Virginia with the Keewick Hunt Club.

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